

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Phone: 503-326-2131
Toll Free: 1-800-338-2157
Email: nass-or@nass.usda.gov
Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/or

Weather: It was a warmer, drier week across the State. High temperatures ranged from 86 degrees in Hermiston, down to 57 degrees in Crescent City. Low temperatures ranged from 25 degrees in Agency Lake up to 46 degrees in Portland. Only seven of forty-three stations reported more than 2 days of precipitation, and only eight received more than 0.5 inches in the week. Although seasonal precipitation remained behind normal cumulative levels in most counties, the sunshine was welcome as it stimulated plant growth. Twelve stations experienced sub-freezing temperatures, including all South Central stations, while thirty-seven stations reached 70 degrees or more and ten stations at least 80 degrees.

Field Crops: Weather in the Willamette Valley warmed up to more normal temperatures. Rust was evident in many winter wheat fields in the Valley. Fescue and Orchardgrass were heading in Benton and Linn counties. Growers began cutting Red Clover fields and Crimson clover was at 15 – 20 percent bloom, brightening the landscape in Washington County. Hops started to climb the twine in Marion County. Jackson County reported hay fields were growing well with the spring rains. Field corn and potatoes continued to be planted throughout the State.

Vegetables: Favorable weather conditions across the State kept vegetable growers busy with ground preparation and planting.

Fruits and Nuts: Fungicides continued to be sprayed on orchards, vineyards, and berry fields. In Douglas County, cherries, peaches, and nectarines looked good. In Lane County raspberries, blueberries, and grapes were progressing nicely. Strawberries were available at local markets.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Warmer temperatures allowed gardeners to plant vegetable starts and other spring ornamental plants, thus keeping Greenhouses and Nurseries busy.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Cattle and calves were doing well on spring pastures. Grasses in Western counties continued good growth. Eastern counties were expecting to see more growth after experiencing some moisture and warmer weather this past week. Wasco County reported browning of rangeland hills.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 05/16/10

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	1	6	82	11
Subsoil	0	13	72	15

Crop Progress - Week Ending 05/16/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley planted	93	91	93	95
Barley emerged	79	77	82	80
Spring wheat emerged	93	86	89	89
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.6	4.7	5.3	5.8

Crop Condition - Week Ending 05/16/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	1	5	36	47	11
Spring wheat	0	12	37	47	4
Barley	0	9	21	61	9
Range and pasture	1	4	19	64	12

Western Oregon

BENTON/LINN: Weather in the Willamette Valley warmed up to more normal temperatures, and there were even a few light thunder storms. Hives have started to appear in the different crops. Fescue crops and Orchardgrass were heading, Meadowfoam was starting to flower, and annual ryegrass was looking average to poor. Wheat showed lots of water stress and there have been reports of rust starting to appear in wheat and some of the perennial crops. Vegetable growers were busy planting late spring and some summer crops.

CLACKAMAS: Rain fell early in the week, followed by warm and dry conditions through the weekend. It was catch-up time for sweet corn and green bean planting. Some grass was cut for haylage and one gambler took down some alfalfa for dry hay. Bales looked a bit heavy.

COLUMBIA: There was a rare string of good days. Temperatures were near or above normal. Wet weather of the last month or so may increase small fruit and grain diseases.

COOS/CURRY: Unseasonably late rain this week enhanced what, in a normal year, would be declining pasture quality. Low temperatures were slightly above the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos Co.) and slightly below the 5-year average in southern Curry. High temperatures through the week were nearly 10 degrees below the 5-year average in southern Curry and nearly 14 degrees below the 5-year average in Coos. Both Coos and Curry counties experienced drying conditions and warmer temperatures from mid-week through the weekend which continued to drop the water levels in streams and rivers back to more normal levels – a drop standing water levels in the bottom pastures that still remain under standing. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 40.97 degrees, 0.65 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 57.78 degrees, 13.82 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.08 inches, 0.7 inches above the 5-year (including drought in 2005) average for the week. Precipitation for the Current weather year (began 10/09) stands at 52.3 inches, 1.07 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through May is 55.97 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 42.23 degrees, 1.01 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 64.12 degrees, 9.9 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.39 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought in 2005) average of 0.89 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 73.68 inches, 0.5 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through May is 68.15 inches.

DOUGLAS: A drier pattern has allowed some field work to take place. Field cultivation for vegetables began. A lot of fungicides were sprayed in orchards, vineyards, and berry fields. Cherry, peach, and nectarine crops looked good. Apples and pear fruit sets looked good. Frost caused some fruit finish problems with apples. First codling moths were trapped this week. More spraying will begin this week.

JACKSON: Hay fields were growing quite well with the spring rains. Grain crops also showed good growth. A few fields were still being worked for hay. All fruit had blossomed, and spraying was done for petal drop. Trees looked good and full of leaves. It was still unclear how much damage was done by the frosty nights during bloom. There was a lot of activity by vegetable growers, doing

ground work and some early planting. Early-planting onions were off to a good start. Greenhouses were really busy getting out vegetable and flower starts for growers. Lots of people were working to get their decorative planting done and have their homes looking good for summer, so nurseries were also quite busy. All livestock were out on spring pastures, looking quite good with lots of forage. Many babies were in the fields with their mothers. It was a good week to get some of the outside work caught up. Weather was much warmer and sunny, especially later in the week.

JOSEPHINE: Temperatures were above normal: 70-80 degrees during the day, 36-42 degrees at night. Twice in the early morning there was fog, but no other precipitation in the week. Truck gardens were plowed and ready to plant, late for the area since plowing was prohibited while it was still too wet. Home gardens should start to show some growth now with warmer soil. Asparagus and broccoli looked good this year. Cole crops have done very well this season with floating row covers to protect from deer and bugs. Allergy season has heated up with all the trees in bloom, and with ripening grasses.

LANE: Soils were dry enough for tilling. Weather was warm, reaching 70 degrees. Some peaches, cherries and pears looked okay, whereas others were frozen out. Apples appeared to be a good set. Raspberries were blooming, blueberries neared full bloom, and grapes were growing nicely. Farmers markets had good sales with sunshine. Local extension offices were getting many reports of fungal diseases.

MARION: Warmer days caused rapid growth in all crops. Hops started to climb the twine. Wheat started to head out. A lot of rust was evident in many wheat fields. Meadowfoam started to bloom.

WASHINGTON: The flag leaf has emerged on all winter wheat crops. Stripe rust infections were present in most winter wheat fields in the County. Normal to elevated levels of Septoria were also present. Some of the last plantings of spring wheat and oats were being planted in low lying areas where water had been present. Red Clover fields were beginning to undergo their first cuttings. Crimson clover was at 15-20% bloom, brightening the landscape. First year red and crimson clover fields continued to struggle with growth. Planting of field corn, sweet corn and potatoes continued. Grass seed crops looked normal. Stem rust was identified in one fall-planted tall fescue field in the County. Some applications of fungicides and/or plant growth regulators will begin on grass seed crops in the coming week or two. Strawberries were sold at local markets. Caneberries and blueberries were blooming. Potted plants and vegetable starts were moving out rapidly as warmer days and nights allowed gardeners to plant. Range grass was growing rapidly with plenty of moisture and warmer weather. The low temperature was 38 degrees, and the high 73 degrees. Humidity ranged from 56 percent to 75 percent with no rain.

YAMHILL: Temperatures reached low to mid seventies. Farmers were able to spray most of the week and do field prep and planting. Blueberries were setting. Wild hawthorn and marionberries were blooming. Red clover silage continued to be harvested. Meadowfoam was in full bloom and radish for seed was blooming as well. Grasses were heading out. Some foliar boron applications took place on hazelnuts. Warmer weather advanced crop maturity on tree fruits, closer to normal levels for this time of year.

Eastern Oregon

GRANT: Temperatures finally started to warm up so the grass will begin to grow and range conditions should improve greatly over the next few warm days.

HOOD RIVER: The week started with cool and wet weather conditions, and ended much warmer and drier. Minimum temperatures stayed above critical ranges for developing flowers and fruit. Codling moth biofix occurred on Friday at the OSU-MCAREC. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 9 and 10.

KLAMATH: Some precipitation came early in the week. Temperatures were in the 60s and 70s toward the end of the week. Irrigation water has been released to charge the system, and is expected to be available starting next week. Planting of potato crops was under way.

LAKE: Precipitation in the form of snow fell early in the week. Tillage work was being completed in many areas of the County. Irrigation started up in most areas.

MALHEUR: Weather was still cool in the first part of the week. There were high winds on Tuesday and Wednesday followed by warm temperatures. There was no precipitation. Most crops need warmer weather.

WALLOWA: Quite a bit of moisture was received during the middle of the week, which helped crop and range conditions as well as the snow pack and water content percentages. Warmer weather arrived towards the end of the week and is expected to stay for a few days.

WASCO: The last half of the week was extremely hot and dry. Showers occurred Sunday evening. Grain crops were doing well, but more rain is needed for spring planted crops. Alfalfa fields have not started to bloom yet. Grapes were leafing out and grape clusters were visible. Berries and pea crops were blooming. Livestock on range and pasture grasses were doing quite well in most areas. The hills on range lands were rapidly turning brown rapidly. Cherries in The Dalles area have developed to the size of peas.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 16, 2010 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	38	64	51	-1	11	-4	0.31	-0.38	1	68.69	8.52	114	154
Bandon ⁸	41	58	51	-2	7	-7	1.08	0.44	2	53.39	-1.44	97	171
Crescent City	41	57	50	-4	6	-22	0.50	-0.20	1	56.99	-4.28	93	138
Florence	36	63	50	-3	5	-16	0.88	0.00	2	76.03	5.85	108	144
North Bend	41	59	51	-3	11	-10	0.70	0.02	2	52.07	-6.98	88	139
Tillamook	37	64	52	+2	15	+1	0.18	-0.85	1	56.83	-23.21	71	149
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	41	77	58	+4	56	+23	0.25	-0.24	1	36.67	-0.06	100	143
Corvallis	40	75	55	+2	38	+8	0.23	-0.21	2	37.31	-1.89	95	159
Detroit Lake ⁸	41	78	56	+8	47	+35	0.24	-0.53	4	73.53	11.87	119	153
Eugene	38	75	55	+0	39	+1	0.22	-0.27	2	34.41	-10.96	76	130
Hillsboro	39	78	57	+4	53	+21	0.10	-0.25	1	31.15	-2.66	92	132
McMinnville	37	76	57	+2	48	+11	0.16	-0.26	1	24.51	-15.58	61	116
Portland	46	76	59	+3	65	+20	0.20	-0.29	2	28.24	-3.92	88	152
Salem	41	77	58	+4	54	+25	0.10	-0.32	1	37.81	2.21	106	135
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	41	84	57	-2	54	-5	0.46	0.18	3	25.69	-3.58	88	125
Medford	42	82	59	+3	71	+19	0.07	-0.14	1	12.73	-4.32	75	86
Roseburg	44	80	58	+3	61	+16	0.40	0.05	1	27.93	-2.27	92	132
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	36	78	54	+5	36	+21	0.71	0.45	2	13.03	1.75	116	94
Echo ⁸	39	85	61	+3	79	+20	0.05	-0.09	2	6.70	-0.89	88	81
Heppner	39	81	57	+3	55	+19	0.37	0.02	2	8.27	-3.03	73	75
Hermiston	38	86	61	+3	80	+21	0.02	-0.12	1	6.90	-0.69	91	67
Madras ⁸	33	78	55	+2	36	+7	0.15	0.01	1	8.09	-0.12	99	93
Moro	38	77	56	+4	45	+22	0.40	0.19	2	11.88	2.51	127	84
Parkdale ⁸	35	77	55	+1	38	+1	0.07	-0.14	2	33.31	4.46	115	140
Pendleton	41	84	60	+4	75	+24	0.29	0.08	2	9.72	-0.33	97	81
Prairie City ⁸	33	78	55	+2	36	+7	0.15	0.01	1	8.09	-0.12	99	93
The Dalles	44	85	64	+10	96	+67	0.37	0.23	2	10.92	0.16	101	91
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	25	71	48	-2	9	+1	0.15	-0.06	1	9.36	-4.41	68	80
Bend	30	74	50	+1	19	+5	0.20	0.06	1	8.84	-0.48	95	34
Burns	29	76	51	+2	19	+5	0.25	0.04	1	8.78	1.21	116	85
Christmas Valley ⁸	27	74	48	-5	12	-12	0.35	0.14	2	5.04	-4.74	52	79
Klamath Falls	26	74	49	-3	18	-4	0.37	0.16	2	5.97	-5.43	52	73
Klamath Falls ⁸	25	73	49	-4	17	-5	0.35	0.14	1	6.92	-4.48	61	85
Lakeview	30	70	46	-5	4	-11	0.61	0.29	3	8.89	-3.93	69	94
Lorella ⁸	24	73	48	-4	11	-11	0.38	0.17	1	7.63	-3.77	67	82
Redmond	30	78	53	+4	29	+15	0.34	0.20	3	5.87	-0.58	91	64
Worden ⁸	27	73	48	-4	11	-11	0.27	0.06	1	6.49	-4.91	57	72
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	27	78	50	-2	16	-3	0.15	-0.13	3	6.58	-0.71	90	77
Joseph	32	72	50	+4	20	+18	0.50	0.08	1	10.59	-9.51	53	76
La Grande	36	79	55	+3	42	+15	0.39	0.04	3	8.35	-5.36	61	75
Union	34	77	52	+1	24	+5	0.51	0.16	3	10.50	0.67	107	73
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	37	85	57	-3	57	-8	0.33	0.19	2	8.16	0.25	103	73
Rome	30	80	51	-5	24	-13	0.37	0.16	2	7.06	1.11	119	62

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2010: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2009.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.